REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, and 4 are pending. Claims 1, 2, and 4 have been amended. Claims 3 and 5 have been cancelled. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application based on the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Bender et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,999,731) in view of Ashe et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,794,367). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 1 recites, in part, a surge protector which includes a serpentine or technically equivalent film pattern with includes a plurality of narrow lines which extend parallel and close to each, and bridges between the lines for making a high frequency current of a pulse concentrating in edges of the film lines to be distributed evenly over the substrate. In contrast, Bender teaches a surge protector with a surge protection resistor which has a serpentine path. The surge protector resistor described in Bender (Abstract and Figure 3) includes a single line and not a plurality of narrow lines as recited in claim 1. Additionally, Bender fails to teach bridges between the lines wherein the current is distributed evenly over the substrate. Bender merely discloses providing shorting links 25 provided along one edge of the substrate. The Office Action relies on Ashe as allegedly disclosing these features. However, Ashe merely discloses a high resistance resistor in a mesh pattern instead of a single block (Abstract). Ashe does not teach or suggest a surge protector, a serpentine pattern or a plurality of lines with bridges. Furthermore, in a surge protector, resistance values are relatively small whereas Ashe teaches that the benefit of using a mesh instead of a single block is to obtain relatively high resistively in a relatively small area. Accordingly, Ashe actually teaches away from the present invention and does not provide any motivation for a person skilled in the art to combine its teachings with those of Bender. Accordingly, no combination of Bender and Ashe teach or suggest, a surge protector which includes a serpentine or technically equivalent film pattern with includes a plurality of narrow lines which extend parallel and close to each, and bridges between the lines for making a high frequency current of a pulse concentrating in edges of the film lines to be distributed evenly over the substrate, as recited in claim 1.

Claims 2 and 4 are believed allowable for at least the same reasons presented above with respect to claim 1 by virtue of their dependence upon claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

In view of the foregoing, the claims are now believed to be in form for allowance, and such action is hereby solicited. If any point remains in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, please contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 03-3975 under Order No. 81942/274044. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Pillsbury Winthrop LLP

By: _____

Dale S. Lazar
Reg. No.: 28,872
Tel. No.: (703) 905-2126
Fax No.: (703) 905-2500

DSL\VVK

Customer Number [00909]